

MOVES TO SUSPEND FREE CANAL TOLLS

Adamson House Resolution
Intended to Clear Up
Treaty Questions.

TWO YEARS' TRIAL ON REVENUES PROPOSED

Administration Said to Favor
Plan as Means of Settling
Controversies.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)
Washington, Dec. 23.—A joint resolution providing for the suspension for at least two years of the free tolls section of the Panama Canal act was introduced in the House to-day by Representative Adamson, author of the canal bill and chairman of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The plan is believed to have the support of the administration, although official confirmation is withheld.

That administration leaders were considering a suspension of the free tolls concession to American ships in the coastwise trade and that Mr. Adamson would introduce the resolution now presented was exclusively forecast in The Tribune of October 18. The Adamson plan is proposed as a compromise between the free tolls advocates and those who oppose a subsidy, but Mr. Adamson, belonging to the latter class, believes suspension will mean ultimate repeal of the free tolls section.

It is understood that the Adamson suggestion has appealed to the administration as affording a means for determining the self-supporting ability of the Panama Canal and also an opportunity to straighten out pending diplomatic tangles.

Pay Tolls in Mean Time.

Mr. Adamson's resolution provides that if at the expiration of two years after the opening of the canal the President is convinced that it can be supported by tolls not inclusive of those paid by coastwise trade vessels, and if diplomatic differences shall have been adjusted in the mean time, the President may issue an Executive order putting the exemption clause into effect.

"From the date of such Executive order," reads the resolution, "such exemption shall be allowed and enforced, but until such Executive order shall have been issued the vessels engaged in the coastwise trade of the United States shall pay the same tolls required of other vessels."

Mr. Adamson asserts that two years' trial should demonstrate whether the canal may be maintained and operated without the help of toll paid by American vessels in the coastwise trade. In a statement accompanying the resolution, which doubtless will be reported by his committee soon after the holidays, Mr. Adamson says:

"The joint resolution does not involve the principle or policy of a subsidy, to a special interest, but does afford opportunity to try out and test the contentions of both sides of two other questions.

Question of Revenue.

"Those of us who advocated uniform tolls rested our case largely on the contention that the tolls would be needed to operate the canal, to prevent operation and maintenance from becoming a charge on the Treasury. The most of those who advocated exemption for the coastwise trade professed that if the government really needed the tolls to operate the canal, then they would not insist upon the exemption, but they contended that there would be a surplus of tolls from other vessels and that the exemption could well be afforded considering the plethora of revenue.

"On the other proposition, the advocates of uniform tolls, while it was still a domestic proposition and before England had been heard from at all, considered the treaty stipulations and sought to avoid violation of them. The advocates of exemption, insisting that there was no violation of treaties, asserted that they would not consent to violate a treaty, and that if it really was a violation of a treaty they would not insist upon the exemption.

"Their leading exponent on the floor of the House suggested that the exemption be made, and that, if England objected, a case be made for determination at The Hague. Since that exemption was made that gentleman and others of his associates object to arbitration at all.

Intended as a Test.

"This resolution proposes two things. First, an experimental test to demonstrate whether or not the tolls will pay the expenses of operating the canal exclusive of the tolls of the coastwise trade, and the other is to afford opportunity to adjust all questions of diplomacy touching the tolls.

"Assuming that the advocates of exemption were sincere in their contention on these two propositions, it should not prove embarrassing to them at all, nor be regarded as any abandonment of their position to pass this resolution to test the correctness of the two contentions on the two propositions.

"If it is demonstrated that the tolls are sufficient to spare the tolls to the coastwise trade, the State Department will be allowed time to adjust stipulations growing out of the treaty stipulations, and if the advocates of exemption are found to have been correct in their contention as to a sufficiency of revenue and the diplomatic questions are settled in their favor, an executive order will then put the exemption into force."

Big Sale of Christmas Seals.

The sale of Red Cross Christmas seals has increased greatly within the last few days. There is a prospect that the total may be slightly in excess of that of last year if the present activity continues during the last few days of the sale. Booths will be kept open until 6 o'clock to-day to accommodate the late buyers.

THE RICH LITTLE POOR BOY.



FRIAS TO PRESS REILLY LIBEL SUIT

Cuban Ex-Senator to Return to
New York After Love Feast
with Former Enemies.

José Antonio Frias, a former Cuban Senator and former business associate of William Sulzer, who was held in the magistrate's court in this city two months ago in \$2,000 bail to await the action of the grand jury on a charge of perjury, has dared to face the danger of death at the hands of his political enemies at Cienfuegos, Cuba, by going back to his own country.

Frias has not been in Cuba since the killing of Congressman Villaverde, in 1906, in a political feud. It was said that the man responsible for the death of Villaverde, who was popular in Cienfuegos, were partisans of Frias. The friends of Villaverde openly threatened that if Frias, who left Cuba soon after the killing, ever returned his own life would pay for that of his political opponent.

For the last seven years Frias has spent most of his time between New York and Guatemala. In the latter republic he represented a New York banking firm in an effort to obtain the \$500,000 loan which the Guatemalan government wished to negotiate. Frias was also formerly associated with Hugh Reilly, a New York contractor, in contracts in Cuba, and it was Reilly, with whom Frias has numerous lawsuits pending, who caused the charge of perjury to be brought against the former Cuban Senator. Sulzer, while a member of Congress, interested himself in the contracts which Reilly and Frias had in Cuba.

Just before the election Frias, who has fallen out with his former friend Sulzer, brought several charges against the latter for his part in the Cuban contracts and for his efforts to obtain concessions in Guatemala while a member of the Committee of Foreign Affairs in the House.

Frias has a suit pending in this city for \$250,000 damages against Reilly for libel, the publication complained of consisting of the complaint in a suit the contractor brought against Frias, in which it was alleged that he was a fugitive from justice in Cuba. This allegation was stricken out of the complaint by order of the court.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Havana, Dec. 22.—Former Senator José Antonio Frias said to the Tribune correspondent to-day that although the government took some precautions when he came to Cuba, it was done entirely without his solicitation, and that he has not asked for police protection. The fact is that the government feared that the friends of the late Congressman Villaverde might try to harm Frias, and sought to protect him.

Frias added that he had been warmly received in Cienfuegos, and that all the political factions will be represented at a dinner to be given in his honor on Christmas night. He also declared that indictments would soon be found here against two American contractors and another who was connected with the collection of \$300,000 from the Cuban government through the State Department at Washington. Frias claims half of this money.

It is the present plan of Frias to sail for the United States next Saturday. He explained that his return was not to answer to a charge of perjury, but to press his libel suit against Reilly.

Tirman Busy in Paris for Fair.

Paris, Dec. 23.—Alexandre Tirman, the newly appointed Commissioner General for France of the San Francisco Exposition, has opened headquarters at the Ministry of Commerce. He is very active in organizing committees, making personal visits to possible exhibitors and setting afoot propaganda throughout France to make the exposition known.

The commissioner general will devote about eight months to the organization in France, and then he will go to San Francisco to take up the work there.

NEXT LOANS IN PARIS Government Already Pledged to Servian and Russian Issues.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
Paris, Dec. 23.—Joseph Caillaux, Minister of Finance, speaking at a meeting to-day of the Budget Commission, declared that the late Cabinet had pledged the government regarding the issue of Servian and Russian loans.

Premier Doumergue will speak tomorrow at the meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies. It is believed that the committee will express the opinion that the French Ambassador's policy in Rome is too Italian and that French diplomacy in Turkey was directly responsible for the loss of the Baghdad railway concession in Germany.

LAUREATE'S FIRST POEM Dr. Bridges Publishes Initial Effort Since Appointment.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
London, Dec. 23.—A poem entitled "Christmas Eve," by Robert Bridges, Great Britain's poet laureate, appears in "The Times" to-day by their majesties' express desire. The poem is in four verses and his headed "Pax Hominihus Bone Voluntatis." There are six lines in the first verse, as follows:

A frosty Christmas Eve when the stars were shining
Fared I forth alone where westward falls the hill,
And from many a village in the watered valley
Distant music reached me, peals of bells arising.

The constellated sounds ran sprinkling on earth's floor,
As the dark vault above with stars was stangled o'er.

Then sped my thought to keep that first Christmas of all,
When the shepherds watching by their folds are dawn
Heard music in the fields, and, marvelling, could not tell
Whether it were angels or the bright stars singing.

"The Times" says that the subject of the poem, which is the first fruits of Dr. Bridges's official appointment, the day of its appearance and the circumstances of the dedication could not have been more appropriate and that Dr. Bridges may be regarded as both conscious of and happy in the duties of his ancient office. He has assumed without delay the functions of versifier regis, a personage whose privileges are at least as old as the times of the Plantagenets and older by several centuries than the style of laureate. Like a remote predecessor, he has availed himself of the right to address the sovereign not on a state occasion but at a time of Christian festival.

BANK RUN IN VERA CRUZ London and Mexico Branch Temporarily Suspends.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)
Vera Cruz, Dec. 23.—The Vera Cruz branch of the London and Mexico Bank sustained a long run by depositors to-day. It closed its doors half an hour before the regular closing time. Officials state that the bank probably will not resume business until January 2, as Huerta's decrees allows them to close their doors for the rest of the year.

Depositors who retain accounts in the bank are greatly troubled, as many important companies refuse to accept payments in London bank bills.

The United States battleships Kansas and Connecticut arrived here to-day and anchored outside the harbor, with the Nebraska, the Louisiana and the New Hampshire. The last two named vessels sailed this afternoon for the United States.

CHINESE PAPER ATTACKS AMERICA

Subsidized Sheet in Peking
Says U. S. Good Wishes
Accomplish Nothing.

REINSCH'S WRITINGS QUOTED AGAINST HIM

France Satellite of Uncivilized
Russia, Saying Attributed
to New Minister.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 23.—Declaring that America's recognition of the Chinese Republic in advance of the other nations and this country's withdrawal from the sextuple loan had conferred no real benefit on China:

That in both instances the United States was guided by "the Quixotic ideals of 'grape juice diplomacy'";

That those in authority should bear in mind that, aside from good wishes, which accomplish nothing, the United States has withdrawn from all active participation in the problems which confront the great foreign powers in China;

And that it would be "a serious blunder to allow a government which has assumed a purely passive role" in Chinese affairs to exert any influence as compared with nations which have shown "greater courage and resource in adjusting their relations with the Chinese Republic."

"The Peking Daily News," a newspaper subsidized by the Chinese government, has made a serious attack on the United States.

Attack on Paul S. Reinsch.

This attack was the outcome of an earlier one made on Paul S. Reinsch, the new American Minister, on the very day of his arrival, by "Le Journal de Pekin," which is the organ of the Russian Legation in the Chinese capital, and that, in turn, followed the publication in a Shanghai paper of certain undiplomatic excerpts from early writings of Dr. Reinsch, in which he described France as the satellite of Russia and Russia as uncivilized. The Shanghai journal which dug up these ancient writings failed to indicate that they had been written years ago.

How these sayings managed to escape the attention of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, which, since Senator Bacon voted for the confirmation of Ambassador Page only to learn afterward of unkind things Mr. Page said about the writings of diplomatic nominees, is yet to be explained.

When Dr. Reinsch arrived in Shanghai a newspaper there republished some of his old opinions and articles, including the above reference to France and Russia. No one said much attention to this, but "The Peking Daily News," which is published in English, picked up the article from the Shanghai paper and published it in full, also failing to indicate that the opinions were expressed long ago.

The Peking paper's account had all the appearance of new and fresh statements of opinion and fact. "Le Journal de Pekin" was quick to seize the opportunity.

From the British Viewpoint.

A correspondent of "The North China Daily News," the leading British news-

paper of the Far East, described the situation as follows:

"The existence of 'Le Journal de Pekin,' a paper specially favored by the French and Russian legations, proved convenient, and on the very day that Dr. Reinsch arrived in Peking he was confronted in the French newspaper by an article that attacked America. American ideas, American methods, and the American Minister in particular, with Gallic vehemence. It is sufficient to mention that the American navy was declared 'rotten' and the American people a nation of 'bluffers,' to show how Dr. Reinsch was rewarded for saying—long, long ago—that France was a satellite of Russia and that Russia was uncivilized."

TAMPICO AWAITS ATTACK Rebels Still in the Vicinity of Mexican Oil Port.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Dec. 23.—That the Constitutional forces are still hovering around Tampico is shown by a dispatch to the State Department, which tells of an unimportant skirmish at Altamira, twenty miles from Tampico. It was at Altamira that the fighting was begun prior to the last assault by the rebels on Tampico.

A dispatch to the Navy Department from the Annapolis, at Annapolis, reports the situation there quiet. The rebels have captured San Marcos and there are rumors of rebel activity throughout the State of Querrotero.

A dispatch to the State Department from Annapolis, says that a forced loan of 20,000 pesos has been advanced by the Spaniards there to the Federal military commander.

The Federal occupation at Concepcion del Oro is confirmed.

Advices from Laredo are to the effect that large railroad bridges and a great deal of track have been destroyed between Saitillo and Laredo, with no attempt at repairs.

HUERTA CELEBRATES DAY OF HIS BIRTH

All Members of the Diplomatic
Corps Attend Reception
in Mexico City.

Mexico City, Dec. 23.—President Huerta celebrated at the National Palace to-day the anniversary of his birth. He was born on December 23, 1864.

Before daylight military bands marched up and down in front of the palace and serenaded the President, who afterward received the congratulations of committees representing all departments of the government.

Later there was a reception of the diplomatic corps, at which all the foreign representatives were present, including Nelson O'Shaughnessy, American Chargé d'Affaires. The Spanish Minister, Jacinto de Coloman y Coloman, dean of the corps, delivered an address to General Huerta congratulating him in the name of his colleagues.

"La Nacion," the daily paper published in the interests of the Catholic party, suspended publication to-day at the suggestion of the Mexican government.

The heavier depositors of the Bank of London and Mexico are placing their accounts with various banks here. Most of those persons forming the line at the doors of the bank are small depositors.

All the banks opened their doors to-day, in accordance with the agreement made with the Clearing House last night. Only limited amounts were paid out by the Bank of London and Mexico to the many depositors who applied.

MEXICAN FEDERALS PLAN TWO ATTACKS

Salazar's Troops Moving
Against Both Juarez
and Chihuahua.

BURNING BRIDGES TO HAMPER VILLA

Huerta's Men Taking Advantage
of the Rebels' Departure
to Assault Torreón.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.)

Juarez, Mexico, Dec. 23.—From Ojinaga the federal army which evacuated Chihuahua City and marched across a desert stretch of more than one hundred miles to escape General Pancho Villa's rebel army is moving to attack Juarez.

Scouting parties of General Ynez Salazar's cavalry have destroyed railroad bridges between Juarez and Chihuahua, and have cut the telegraph wires within thirty miles of Chihuahua. It is believed the Federals are moving in two columns to attack Juarez and Chihuahua simultaneously, taking advantage of the movement of Villa's army to the south from Chihuahua and of the reduced rebel garrison in Juarez.

Four hundred rebel cavalry left Juarez to-day to try to intercept the bridge-burning party below this city and give battle to them. General Benavides, the Juarez commander, has not been advised of the strength of the Federals operating along the two railroads, but it is reported that there are several small bands sent by Salazar in advance of the main cavalry detachment to destroy communications and prevent the sending of reinforcements either to Juarez or Chihuahua.

While rebel leaders insist that General Villa is still in Chihuahua or the vicinity of that city, reports continue to reach the border that he has left Chihuahua with the larger part of his army for the movement against Torreón, and that the Federals are taking advantage of that movement to attempt the recapture of Juarez and Chihuahua.

Villa is said to be at Escalon, well on the way to Torreón, and personally will direct the attack on Laguna City, which already is besieged by rebels, who have taken the suburban towns of Gomez Palacio and Lerdo.

A refugee train, on which are several hundred Mexican families from Chihuahua, is marooned by burned bridges between Chihuahua and the border, but at just what point the officials at Juarez are unable to learn.

Hundreds Homeless After Fire.

Georgetown, British Guiana, Dec. 23.—The loss caused by yesterday's fire here is estimated at \$2,000,000. Six blocks of business houses and tenement houses were destroyed. The total of those killed is known to be twenty-three, and many more are missing, while a large number of people were injured. The government and the Salvation Army have provided shelter for hundreds of the homeless.

Portuguese Generals Arrested.

Lisbon, Dec. 23.—The Republican political prisoners who were arrested last April in connection with serious disorders in Lisbon and sent to prison at Angra, the Azores, have been brought here for trial. Among the prisoners are two generals.



We are telling our Christmas story in displays of cigars in our store windows.

The cigars are the famous brands sold at UNITED CIGAR STORE prices which every day in the year—from one Christmas to another—hold the favor of the largest constituency of smokers in the world.

Selections may be made from the brands mentioned here with the least possible chance of not suiting the man who is to smoke them.

In our cigars popular taste has been standardized by the favor of millions of smokers who know.

The following prices are for boxes of 25. (Boxes of 50 at the same rate.)

CLEAR HAVANAS

At \$2.00 a Box
EL PRINCIPE DE GALES Governor
HAVANA-AMERICAN Senator

At \$2.50 a Box
HAVANA-AMERICAN Ambassador
HAVANA-AMERICAN Universal
FLOR DE MURIAS Tulipane

At \$2.83 a Box
EL PRINCIPE DE GALES Perfecto Excelente

At \$3.00 a Box
FLOR DE MURIAS Perfectionado
FLOR DE VALDES Alondra
HAVANA-AMERICAN Perfecto Royal

At \$4.00 a Box
FLOR DE MURIAS Perfecto

At \$5.00 a Box
FLOR DE MURIAS Corona

FINE DOMESTIC

At \$1.00 a Box
GENERAL BRADDOCK Colonial
COSTAL TO COSTAL Londres

At \$1.15 a Box
DUKE OF MORELAND Perfecto

At \$1.25 a Box
LADY CHURCHILL Soberano
BENEFACIOR Superior
ROBIN HOOD Club-House
PALMA DE CUBA Bouquet

At \$1.50 a Box
PALMA DE CUBA Media Perfecto
SENSORIA Perfecto

At \$2.00 a Box
BENEFACIOR Invincible

At \$2.50 a Box
ORLANDO Media Perfecto
SPENCER ARMS Perfecto

At \$2.50 a Box
ORLANDO Bismarck
LA REGINA Perfecto

Orders by mail filled all charges prepaid. Address Mail Order Service, Flatiron Building, New York.

The finest line of Briar and Macassar Pipes, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, etc., to be found anywhere.

UNITED
CIGAR
STORES



Mexico to Meet Bond Interest.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The Mexican Legation here announced to-day that the Mexican government has deposited with bankers abroad sums sufficient to meet the interest due in January on the government bonds.